Government of the District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer



Natwar M. Gandhi Chief Financial Officer

MEMORANDUM

TO:

The Honorable Vincent C. Gray

Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

FROM:

Natwar M. Gandhi

Chief Financial Officer

DATE:

NOV 14 2008

SUBJECT:

Fiscal Impact Statement: "Medicaid State Plan Amendment to Exempt

Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries from Adjustments and Recoveries

Approval Resolution of 2008"

REFERENCE:

Draft Resolution – Number Not Available

Conclusion

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed resolution.

Background

Under the Qualified Medicare Beneficiaries (QMB) program, Medicare recipients are eligible to have Medicare premiums, co-pays, and deductibles paid by Medicaid. Currently, the estates of all Medicaid individuals who are over the age of 55, including QMBs, are subject to adjustments and recoveries for any services provided while enrolled in Medicaid.

The proposed Medicaid State Plan Amendment would exclude QMBs' estates from recoveries and adjustments for premiums, co-pays, and deductibles.

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Financial Plan Impact

Funds are sufficient in the proposed FY 2009 through FY 2012 budget and financial plan to implement the proposed resolution.

The proposed State Plan Amendment would not have an impact on the budget and financial plan because it has been the practice of the District, over the past five years, to exclude QMBs' estates from recoveries and adjustments for premiums, co-pays, and deductibles. The Medicare Improvement for Patients and Providers Act of 2008¹ allows Medicaid agencies to clarify this exemption by specifically excluding QMBs from estate recoveries in their Medicaid State Plans. Therefore, the proposed resolution would simply amend the District's Medicaid State Plan to conform to current practice, which would not result in any impact to the budget and financial plan.

¹ Public Law 110-275, July 15, 2008, 122 Stat 2494.